

IOWA BIRD LIFE

PUBLISHED QUARTERLY BY THE

IOWA ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION

VOL. XII

MARCH, 1942

NO. 1



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The Iowa Ornithologists' Union was organized at Ames, Iowa, February 28, 1923, for the study and protection of native birds and to promote fraternal relations among Iowa bird students.

The central design of the Union's official seal is the Eastern Goldfinch, designated State Bird of Iowa in 1933.

Publications of the Union: Mimeographed letters, 1923-1928; 'The Bulletin,' 1929-1930; 'Iowa Bird Life,' beginning 1931.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: \$1.00 a year (includes membership dues). Single copies 25c each. Claims for missing or defective copies of the magazine should be made within six months of date of issue. Keep the Editor informed of your correct address.

EDITORIAL AND PUBLICATION OFFICE

W I N T H R O P , I O W A

A GLIMPSE OF SOUTH AMERICAN BIRDS

By MRS. W. G. MACMARTIN
TAMA, IOWA

Many interesting bird observations were made while on a Good Neighbor tour through South America in June and July of 1940 with 22 club women. Since there are no illustrated handbooks available on South American birds, difficulty was experienced in identifying many of the species.

After inquiries aboard ship a strange species was identified as the Frigate-bird or Man-o'-war-bird. It flew in large groups and was often seen from Florida to central South America, both in the Atlantic and the Pacific Oceans. In proportion to its weight its wing spread is greater than that of any other bird. In the Caribbean Sea Audubon's Shearwaters were seen in great numbers. They are said to nest in the West Indies Islands. The Yellow-billed Tropic-bird, often called "Boatswain," was noted as we neared Panama. It is white underneath and has two extremely long tail feathers reaching out beyond the rest of the tail. Approaching Gatun Locks in the Panama Canal were a number of birds resembling the Sooty Tern, called the "Egg Bird" in tropical lands since so many of its eggs are eaten by the inhabitants.

Dr. T. Gilbert Pearson, President Emeritus, National Audubon Society, and Chairman of the Pan-American Committee for Bird Preservation, states that the waterfowl found in the United States do not travel as far south as do our shorebirds. The Blue-winged Teal and Cinnamon Teal alone migrate as far south as central Chile, while "seven species of geese and 21 varieties of ducks migrate as far as Mexico or Central American countries."

The white, Black-throated Swans were photographed flying close at hand, but I was not so fortunate as to see their usual companions, the gorgeous Flamingoes in a wild state. These were seen only in parks and gardens. The American Flamingo is a tropical bird nesting in the Bahamas, West Indies, northern Colombia and in the Galapagos Islands. Closely allied species are common also in more southern regions of South America as Dr. Pearson has found them "as far south as lower Patagonia and in lagoons high in the Andes where the scene had a back-drop of mountains covered with snow."

On a launch trip up the Buenaventura River in Colombia with the true jungle close at hand, many birds were *heard* but only a few slow-moving water birds were *seen*, such as the American Egret, and a bird much like our Great Blue Heron. There was a species of kingfisher resembling our Belted Kingfisher and giving its call. Dr. Pearson states that more than 60 North American warblers are found in the tropical jungles and that 400 more varieties of birds are found in Colombia than in the United States and Canada combined. ('Collier's,' Feb. 1, 1941). Farther up the river beautifully marked hummingbirds of many colors were inspecting the wild orchids.

In Guayaquil, Ecuador, 40 miles up the Quayas River, in several lovely gardens were found iron cages filled with wild birds. The back of one garden overlooked the river, a small inlet of which the owner had wired over, perhaps 20 by 30 feet, where were gathered many shorebirds such as yellowlegs, plovers and sandpipers, enjoying themselves as the tide washed in and out. As I was the only member of the party interested in birds, time could not be taken to photograph these shorebirds found in Ecuador.

The Humboldt current means cormorants by the thousands, just as the Andes Mountains mean condors and black caracaras. While visiting the Larco Museum at Chiclin, Peru, one finds on many

shelves in many rooms excavated Chimú and Inca pottery in shapes representing birds, animals, vegetables, fruits and flowers, made by these Indians 4,000 years ago. Among the birds represented were gulls, ducks, eagles, owls, parrots and teals. Interesting it is that the birds which are found here today were commonly known by the Chimú and Inca Indians centuries ago.

Standing on the top of the ancient Inca Sun Temple (which resembles the pyramids of Egypt and Mexico) located at Pachacamac south of Lima, Peru, one sees a great dark cloud lying low over the Pacific—the Guanay Cormorants flying to their nesting and roosting places on the broad tops of the guano islands. Here where the climate is dry and rainfall slight, for over eight centuries the sea birds have been known to nest. The guano-producing birds are mostly cormorants, pelicans, petrels and boobies. These birds range the coastal waters foraging among the migrating schools of fish as these move along the coast. The collection of guano deposit for fertilizer was carried on by the Incas, and the Peruvians centuries ago. Today laborers for the Peruvian government engage

in the same enterprise. Through the sale of this fertilizer the national treasury of Peru meets many of its financial obligations. Peru now enforces conservation measures to protect the guano-producing birds and their eggs, principally by shooting the condors that come from the mainland to eat the young and by protecting the eggs from the populace.

Motoring from Santiago to Valparaíso, Chile, or 100 miles over the Andes, June 27 (winter in Chile), many birds were observed closely resembling those found in Iowa at this same time of year. These reminded me of our Meadowlarks (darker than ours), Barn Swallow, Red-tailed Hawk, blackbirds, Mourning Dove, pigeons (known as "Torcazas"), Robin (with plumage red below but not on the breast and throat as in our species), Franklin's Gull, Black Tern, Yellowlegs, plovers, phalaropes, sandpipers, and a bird singing like our Song Sparrow but thought to be the "Chingolo," a sparrow eaten for food in many cities.

Dr. Pearson states that the Violet-eared Dove and the Wood Pigeon are abundant in Chile and are often shot as game birds. He states also that there are 22 species of ducks found in Chile which are close relatives of similar ducks in North America. He also writes that Ring-necked Pheasants, California Quails, and European Partridges were introduced into Chile many years ago and today provide much hunting.

In Buenos Aires along the Plata River were numberless ducks, gulls,



FAYE B. (MRS. W. G.) MACMARTIN, author of this article, is well known to our Iowa members as a moving picture photographer and as a speaker at our annual conventions. Her extensive travels include a trip to Alaska in the summer of 1938 (see *Iowa Bird Life*, March, 1940, p. 15).

cormorants, herons, and egrets. From Buenos Aires to La Plata, Argentina, about 90 miles, big stick nests were noted atop telephone poles occupied by little brownish birds which resembled a small thrush. These are called the "John-of-Stick" birds to distinguish them from "John-o'-Mud" birds or "Horneros" whose nests are made of mud and are about the size of a man's head. These birds are found all through much of Argentina and Brazil. The Hornero, also called "Oven-bird," is the most popular bird in Argentina. Thrushes, woodpeckers, and sparrows of different kinds are found there as here.

In Peru, Chile, Argentina, Uruguay, and Brazil one sees native wild birds in stick cages attached to the outside walls of the homes. There are as yet very few laws enforced in South America to protect birds or wildlife. Colombia in March, 1941, passed its first nation-wide conservation law for wildlife protection. In many other countries even the gorgeous Flamingo cannot claim protection from the law today. However, efforts are being made to aid our southern neighbors in establishing such laws for wildlife protection. Dr. T. Gilbert Pearson is largely responsible for starting the movements in various countries.

IOWA ORNITHOLOGISTS OF OTHER DAYS RUDOLPH MARTIN ANDERSON

By MRS. H. J. TAYLOR
BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA

Iowa, where the tall corn grows, fattens her Duroc-Jerseys, Belted Hampshires and Poland Chinas that they may become Morrell's Pride, Armour's Star, Cudahy's Puritan or Swift's Premium.

Iowa, where the tall corn grows, conceived and built the world's first Corn Palace. Four successive years she built a Corn Palace, each more beautiful than its predecessor.

Folded in the arms of the Missouri and Mississippi Rivers, Iowa is known far and near for her cornfields and her broad prairies. Visible attractions and outward signs of growth attract untold numbers. Mind and heart extend sight into the invisible and far into the future. Such vision sees the destruction of forests, sees harvests without fullness because of the destruction of bird life, sees Nature robbed of her balance.

Very early Iowa realized the need and value of conservation, which lies not in one field but in many fields. In the field of ornithology she has many and outstanding names—men interested in the preservation of her bird life. Scientific men, devoting their years to the interest of wild life protection, have contributed to the knowledge of Iowa's birds. Such a scientist is Dr. Rudolph Martin Anderson of the National Museum of Canada in Ottawa. His main line is mammals but his interest in wildlife is all inclusive and he has made definite contributions in the field of ornithology not only in Iowa but where ever his work has called him. His 'Methods of Collecting and Preserving Vertebrate Animals' (Bulletin 69, 141 pages, National Museum of Canada) is an outstanding piece of work. The instructions for preparing bird and mammal skins are complete in every detail.

Rudolph Anderson was born near Decorah, Iowa, June 30, 1876. His background is a firm foundation for his outstanding achievements. His grandfather, Nelson Johnson, on his arrival from Norway in 1839, settled in Wisconsin. In 1850 he moved to Iowa. He was one of the first pastors in the Norwegian Methodist Episcopal Church. Rudolph Anderson's father was a member of the Iowa Legislature. His uncle, Captain Andrew Anderson, gave his life in the Peninsular Campaign in 1862. His uncle on the mother's side, Martin Nelson Johnson, was



DR. RUDOLPH MARTIN ANDERSON

Chief, Division of Biology, National Museum of Canada, and Consulting Zoologist, Lands, Parks and Forests Branch, Department of Mines and Resources. Photographed in his office at the National Museum of Canada, Ottawa, December, 1941.

late Congressman-at-large and United States Senator of North Dakota.

Rudolph Anderson graduated from the University of Iowa in 1903, receiving the degree Ph. B. His college years showed unusual scholarship. He had a definite leaning toward the scientific study of animal life. In this field he has attained national and international recognition.

From 1902-1906 he was assistant in zoology in the Iowa University. From 1906-1908 he was instructor and assistant commandant in Blee Military Academy and Captain in the National Guard of Missouri. During 1908-1913 he was field agent and assistant in mammalogy for the American Museum of Natural History in New York City. In January, 1913, he married Mae Belle Allstrand of Sioux City, Iowa. On July 20, 1913, Dr. Anderson sailed with the Canadian Expedition, 1913-1916, under the leadership of Vilhjalmur Stefansson. The work to be done was so varied in kind and region that the expedition was divided into two parties. Stefansson commanded the Northern Division; Anderson the Southern. Anderson was also editor of the Government scientific reports of the expedition.

Dr. Anderson has done field work in every province and territory of Canada, as well as in northern Alaska. His name appears in many scientific societies. He is a Fellow in the Royal Society of Canada. He is also a Fellow in the American Association for the Advancement of Science. His membership in Sigma Xi is a distinct honor. In ornithology he is a member of American Ornithologists' Union and likewise of the Cooper Club and the Wilson Ornithological Club.

Dr. Anderson has not published much on birds recently. In 1894 he

made a very interesting study of owls in Winnebago County, Iowa. He says: ('Owl Notes—1894,' *Nidologist*, II, 1895, pp. 79-80) 'January 6, Shot a female Gray Screech Owl that was sitting in a hole in a basswood tree, about sunset. January 13, Shot a male Long-eared Owl in a small grove of evergreen trees. This is the first time I have met with this species in winter. The Short-eared Owls are 'conspicuous by their absence' this winter while last winter they were common from December till March. January 26, Mounted a Great Horned Owl that was shot near this place. Its plumage was of the light gray type. February 10, Shot a Gray Screech Owl in afore mentioned evergreen grove. March 3, Hancock County . . . I first went by an old oak tree in which I had frequently seen Screech Owls. A Red Screech Owl was sitting in the opening . . . then dodged back into the hole . . . (soon) the owl flew out. In the hole was the headless body of a White-footed Mouse (*Sitomys americanus*). A little farther on I started a Gray Screech Owl out of another hollow tree. Near the edge of a piece of tall timber I saw a large nest of sticks in the top of an oak tree about 50 feet from the ground. A Great Horned Owl was on the nest . . . A few raps on the tree caused her to fly off, and I climbed up and secured two fresh, pure-white eggs. . . . About two miles farther on I visited a large oak tree. . . . A Great Horned Owl flew from the nest and lit in a tree quite a ways off. The nest was about 35 feet from the ground, and contained two eggs, considerably incubated. April 6, Went by the tree where I took my first set of Great Horned Owl eggs on March 3. . . . There were two considerably incubated eggs in this second set of the season."

No less interesting is Dr. Anderson's 'A Hawk Diary' (*Nidologist*, III, 1896, pp. 124-125). He says: "May 5, when I came near my old Hawk's nest of April 21, I was not surprised to see a large Red-tail fly from the nest. . . . The nest was 40 feet from the ground and contained three beautiful, fresh eggs. The eggs were very differently marked, one being very faintly spotted with pale lavender and very light brown; another was thickly marked over the entire surface with light brown blurred-looking spots. . . . The third egg had many large, light brown blotches, chiefly on the larger end. . . . The same day I saw a Swainson's Hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*) sitting near a large nest in an oak tree about 50 feet from the ground. The nest was an old one . . . and contained several cottonwood or poplar twigs, with small fresh green leaves on them. . . . May 6, While walking along a country road I saw a pair of Marsh Hawks. . . . On looking the ground over thoroughly, I found the nest, flat on the ground in the center of the weeds. It contained only a single pale blue egg. . . . May 12, In the same grove, a Cooper's Hawk (*Accipiter cooperi*) dashed off her nest . . . lit in a tree near by, and dropped at the report of the double-barrel. The nest was in a burr-oak, about 25 feet from the ground. It was about 18 inches across, built of small sticks, and unlined. . . . The nest contained five fresh eggs, pale bluish in color. . . ."

In 1907 he completed his 'Birds of Iowa,' a book of 292 pages, published by the Davenport Academy of Sciences. It was written as a thesis required by the University of Iowa for his degree—Doctor of Philosophy. There are lists of Iowa birds covering certain sections, counties, or localities; but Dr. Anderson's book covers, with rare thoroughness, the entire state. The bibliography is a valuable asset; it begins with the Lewis and Clarke Expedition, continuing with Audubon, Baird, Elliott Coues and many others. In its thoroughness and completeness 'Birds of Iowa' is an outstanding and valuable volume—a very definite contribution to Iowa Ornithology.

Dr. Anderson's work is mainly on mammals but there are interesting and valuable items on birds in his research work. In Canadian Bulletin

of February 18, 1939, he records what is believed to be the first North American record of a banded bird from Russia—a Kittiwake Gull. It was killed near Little Fogo Island, Newfoundland, September 20, 1937. The band bore the name "Moscow" and the number 51412 was placed on the band of the Kittiwake on the Island of Kharlov on June 19, 1937. The Island of Kharlov is near where the northern part of Russia joins Finland.

On November 16, 1927, Dr. Anderson read a paper at the Annual A. O. U. meeting on the interesting, hazardous, valuable Arctic ornithological work of Bernhard Adolf Hantzsch, whose daring undertaking brought results that are of great value today.

Not only for his contributions to Iowa ornithology are we proud to claim Rudolph Martin Anderson as Iowa's son. We rejoice in the service he has given and is still giving to the world in wildlife conservation.

VISITOR SUPREME--THE RUBY-THROAT

By E. P. HEUSER
DUBUQUE, IOWA

As, in the ceaseless play of nature, the summer drifts into the middle days of August, the Ruby-throated Hummingbird comes to live in the cardinal vine that thickly curtains the sunny side of my garage. Nature's delicacy on wings, he finishes the picture among the numberless trumpet flowers that glow deep red and open fresh every morning. Expertly he siphons each tube, careful to miss none, nor to double on his tracks.

I watch him and wonder at him. We get used to each other, he to my awkward stare, and I to his constant tiny-talk and the seducing purr of his misty wings. Since the zinnias began growing old and losing their glamour, my ears have been set for his miniature sounds in the blooming cardinal vine. On the wire close to me, and on the dying twigs of the cherry tree, he sits, resting a brief second, and curling his extraordinary tongue in the purifying air.

Magnificent little tyrant he elects himself, and in his acquired paradise he needs no intrigue other than his own morale! His needle bill is his rapier to drive away usurpers who have made the mistake of coming too late. The fury and the pride of his conflict are in proportion to the pugnacity of the invader. Face to face they meet like cockerels in a barnyard. With humming wings and dangerous looking bills carefully aimed, they float up and down in the sea of air. I can hear the click of the duel. The newcomer, lacking the confidence of possession, retreats over the roof-top, to try again for a hasty sip, but the charge is down upon him, for in the Ruby-throat the law of self preservation recognizes no peace between rivals. So the nectar waits and the sunshine serves only to light the oft-repeated struggle. Casualties, if any, pass unseen.

One morning in September there is noisy excitement in the neighborhood. The Bronzed Grackles are whirling southward in a rapid stream. In a nearby line of elms part of the flow stops to rest and their loud racket is heard above everything else. It attracts both myself and the Ruby-throat.

For some minutes we are motionless as we watch the black spinning torrent against the sunrise sky where the trail swings low over my garden. There is the sound of many wings fanning the air. The Ruby-throat, no doubt, is feeling the call of the South.

But he will wait—until the frost nips, and the wounded cardinal trumpets open no more in the early sun. Then, having come to me

out of the harvest of the summer, and lived in my garden for a time, he goes again into the welcome of the South, as the final days of September make way for autumn.

ANNUAL CONVENTION AT WATERLOO

The Waterloo Audubon Society has invited the Iowa Ornithologists' Union to hold its 1942 convention in their city, and this invitation we are very glad to accept. The convention will be held on Saturday and Sunday, May 9 and 10. The presentation of papers, the business meeting and the annual Ornithologists' Banquet will occupy the first day, and the field trip will be made on Sunday. Hotel President has been selected as headquarters for the convention.

The copy for this issue of 'Iowa Bird Life' is made up late in February, which is too early for us to give a complete announcement. Waterloo is in very good bird territory and a successful field trip is assured. The program committee is working on details of the program. An excellent program will be presented and the convention will no doubt measure up to the high standards set by our organization in other years. A complete program and other information will be sent to all members well in advance of the convention dates. We hope for a good attendance and urge our members to begin making plans to meet with us on May 9 and 10.

THE 1941 CHRISTMAS BIRD CENSUS IN IOWA

Despite the distractions of the war and national defense, the 1941 Christmas bird census as taken in Iowa was a success and the various groups of observers in the field made a good showing. The number of censuses taken was somewhat less than last year, however. December was a mild month with considerable precipitation. Until the evening of December 25, weather conditions were ideal for census-taking, with warm days and entire absence of snow. In many parts of the state farmers were plowing the day before Christmas, as there was no frost in the ground. It is a recognized fact that when December is mild birds are more difficult to find, for they are spread out over the country and there is no concentration into the winter groups which are found after a period of severe weather. On Christmas night there was a heavy fall of snow over much of the state.

In order to conserve space we are omitting comment on the unusual bird discoveries, of which there were many. A careful check of the table will reveal the fine records obtained by alert observers, in addition to conveying an accurate picture of the winter bird life of the state late in 1941.

Data on place, time, weather and the observers who reported are given below.

ATLANTIC (territory along the Nishnabotna River northeast of city, other territory south and east of city, and a trip to Lewis cemetery and Cold Springs State Park): Dec. 21; 2:30 to 5:30 p. m. Cloudy; strong south wind; temp. 47° to 51°; 62 miles by car and 7 on foot. Observers worked in 3 groups. Fifteen members of Atlantic Bird Club; report sent by Eugene Ruhr.

BACKBONE STATE PARK (Delaware Co.): Dec. 24; 9 a.m. to 4 p. m. Cloudy all day; ground bare, all streams open, and no frost in the ground; very light north wind; temp. 34° at start, 36° at return; total foot mileage per person, about 6; trip included an auto ride from Winthrop to the park and return, with birds seen along the road included in the census. Observers together. Myrle L. Jones, Paul A. Pierce, F. J. Pierce.

CEDAR RAPIDS (Ellis Park and Manhattan in a. m.; in p. m. southeast of city for 7 miles along Cedar River road, then west along side roads for a few miles): Dec. 21; 9 a. m. to 12, 1:30 to 4:30 p. m. Somewhat cloudy but sun shining in middle of day; ground bare; mild southeast wind; temp. 40° at start, 56° at return; 7 miles on foot, 17 by car. Observers in 2 groups in p. m. Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Steffen, Mr. and Mrs. Ross Lund, Lillian Serbousek, Hazel Cook, Margaret Lahr, Myra Willis, Virginia Slauson.

COUNCIL BLUFFS (city, Big Lake in Lewis Park and Mynster Springs, timbered ravine east of lake, all in Pottawattamie County): Dec. 28; 9:30 a. m. to 12:30 p. m. Clear; 4 in. snow with trees and shrubbery white with ice and hoar-frost; no wind except for faint breeze at start; temp. 18° at start, 22° at return; 2 miles on foot. Observers together. Ben Bierer, Frank A. Fariday, Floyd Coffelt, Jimmie Stiles, Bruce F. Stiles (Council Bluffs Bird Club).

DES MOINES (Waterworks Park or Charles Sing Denman Wood, Walnut Wood State Park, Doves Woods along Beaver Creek, Morning Star and Fisher's Lake area, Crocker Woods and Waukonsa Park along Des Moines River; afoot and by auto): Dec. 26; 8 a. m. to 5 p. m. Sky overcast most of the day; 4½ in. fresh, wet snow on ground and clinging thickly to all branches of trees; all streams open; very light wind, southeast in a. m. and changing to northwest in p. m.; temp. 28° at start, 27° at return; total party miles, 31 on foot, 92 by car. Observers worked in 5 parties. Mrs. Toni R. Wendelburg, Mrs. John Williamson, Dwight Smith, Olivia McCabe, Mrs. Harold R. Peasley, Mrs. Paul Anderson, Mrs. Russell Graves, Mrs. A. J. Binsfeld (Des Moines Audubon Society).

DUBUQUE (Linwood and Mt. Calvary Cemeteries, Eagle Point Park, 5 miles north to Durango among wooded hills, 8 miles south to Massey Station on the river): Dec. 21; 8:30 a. m. to 3:30 p. m. Partly cloudy, clear much of the day but hazy on the river; ground bare; no wind; temp. 35° at start, 55° at return. Observers in 5 cars worked as a single party in a. m.; in p. m. as 4 groups. Margaret Kohlman, Ival Schuster, David Reed, Paul Herrmann, Ed Heuser, Bob McComish, Al Kwasky, Henry Herrmann, E. A. Hemsley, Mary Young, Mr. and Mrs. C. O. Johnson, Lyle Bradley, Jack Tupper, Clifford Blades, Mrs. R. W. Johnson (Dubuque Bird Club).

Six Bald Eagles had been seen in the vicinity of the dam at Dubuque by members of the bird club during the previous week, but only one bird could be found the day of the census. The flock of 20 Evening Grosbeaks was seen by several of the observers and provides the only record of the Dubuque Bird Club.

FAIRFIELD (and vicinity): Dec. 21; 3 hrs. in a. m. Warm winter day but atmosphere somewhat hazy. Observers together. Ila Glotfeldt, Faye Lawson, Pearl Walker, J. Wilbur Dole.

FAIRFIELD (west on the C. B. & Q. railroad for 4 miles, then south 3 miles and back to town on the Rock Island tracks): Dec. 25; 8:30 a. m. to 4:30 p. m. Fairly strong north wind most of the day but shifting to east in late afternoon; at 3:30 it began to sleet, and by 5 p. m. ground was covered with snow; temp. near freezing all day; 12 miles on foot. John Goodman.

SIGOURNEY (ravines around Legion Park and down West Creek ½ mile): Dec. 29; 12:30 to 3 p. m. Ground covered with 6 in. snow; temp. 16° at start and return. Observers together. Mrs. W. C. DeLong and Lion Cub Scouts Richard DeLong, Nyle Utterback.

SIOUX CITY (Big Sioux River from Riverside Park to War Eagle's Park, Graceland and Logan Park Cemeteries, Stone Park, Brower's Lake, South Ravine, Missouri River "jungles"): Dec. 21; 8 a. m. to 4 p. m. Overcast; ground bare; still; temp. 30° at start, 40° at return; total party miles, 9 on foot, 129 by car. Observers worked in 4 groups.

(Continued on page 12)

	Atlantic	Backbone State Park	Cedar Rapids	Council Bluffs	Des Moines	Pubaque	Pairfield (Bole et al)	Pairfield (Goodman)	Siourney	Sioux City	Tama	Wauhonsie State Park	Webster City
Great Blue Heron.....			1									105	
Canada Goose.....					.957							7	
Mallard.....										5			
American Pintail.....					1						5		
American Golden-eye.....													
American Merganser.....					1								
Sharp-shinned Hawk.....													
Cooper's Hawk.....	2	1			6							2	3
Red-tailed Hawk.....					1								
Red-shouldered Hawk.....					1								
Rough-legged Hawk.....					5					1			
Bald Eagle.....						1							
Marsh Hawk.....					8						1		
Sparrow Hawk.....	2		1		2		6	10	1	1			
Bob-white.....					.34								
Ring-necked Pheasant.....	2	3		1						1			
Herring Gull.....						15							
Ring-billed Gull.....						1							
Mourning Dove.....	1				.97								
Screech Owl.....		1			2								
Great Horned Owl.....	2				3	1				1			
Barred Owl.....				1	3		1						
Long-eared Owl.....	3				1								
Short-eared Owl.....						3							
Belted Kingfisher.....					1								
Picker.....	9		8	1	11		1	3		5	3	6	1
Red-shafted Flicker.....													
Healed Woodpecker.....		1											
Red-bellied Woodpecker.....	4		4	2	10	3	1	2	1	1	1	5	1
Red-headed Woodpecker.....			3		2		7	2			2		
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker.....						4							
Hairy Woodpecker.....	7	1	6		14	7	2	2		3	2	3	
Dowry Woodpecker.....	10	2	8	5	62	14	5	20	4	5	5	11	8
Horned Lark (Prairie).....					6					30	24		
Blue Jay.....	7	35	10	1	34	25	4	10	1		4	6	8

CHRISTMAS BIRD CENSUS

[illegible]

Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Armour, Mr. and Mrs. Herrold Asmussen, Barbara Bailey, Mrs. Marie Dales, Jean Laffoon, Zell C. Lee, Monte Lloyd (Sioux City Bird Club).

TAMA (and vicinity, along roadsides and hillsides in an area of about 10 by 15 miles lying north and west of Tama in Tama County—much the same area as reported from in past years): Dec. 27; 9 a. m. to 12, 1 to 3 p. m. About $4\frac{1}{2}$ in. snow on the level; northwest wind; temp. 29°. Observers together. Mr. and Mrs. W. G. MacMartin, Bay Brice.

WAUBONSIE STATE PARK (and vicinity, Fremont County): Dec. 21; 8:30 a. m. to 4:30 p. m. Strong (30 m. p. h.) south wind all day; temp. 45° at start, 55° at return; 6 miles on foot, 20 by car. Observers together. Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Jones.

Birds which had been seen or heard almost daily at Waubonsie Park before and after the census trip include Brown Creepers, Bluebirds, Great Horned Owl, Western Meadowlark and Mourning Dove.

WEBSTER CITY (wooded area along Boone River north of town): Dec. 16; 12 m. to 2 p. m. Clear; very light cover of snow on ground; light southwest wind; temp. 41° at start, 42° at return; diameter of total area censused, 3 miles. Wilma Brant, Shirley Foster, Eva Carlson, Shirley Hall, Beatrice Cook, Barbara Brown, Margaret Murley.

GENERAL NOTES

Warblers at McGregor.—At McGregor, Iowa, on May 30 and 31, 1941, a group of us saw these warblers, among others: Canada, Blackpoll, Cerulean and Kentucky. We had despaired of locating the Kentucky Warbler when it suddenly perched in full view in the sunlight and repeated, "Turtle, turtle, turtle."—C. ESTHER COPP, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Mockingbird at Vinton.—On November 5, 1941, we had the thrill of seeing a Mockingbird about the bird feeders just outside our window. It was raining at the time with a little snow. Although the bird was present all forenoon, it didn't appear to be very hungry. It was very tame and was as much at home as the local birds. This was my first record of the Mockingbird at Vinton since noting the pair along the river in June, 1930.—WALTER L. BURK, Vinton, Iowa.

Notes from a Feeding-station.—We have a modest feeding-station. Before the Starlings learned that we were operating such a place, many native birds came to cheer us. There were the Slate-colored Junco, White-breasted Nuthatch, Chickadee, Downy and Hairy Woodpeckers, Blue Jay and Cardinal. We felt as though we were doing some real missionary work among the native birds, for they were showing their appreciation by becoming very friendly. After taking down the Christmas tree, we redecorated it, attaching tightly to the trunk or inner branches such food as meat scraps, suet, boxes of mixed crumbs, and oatmeal and rice. The Chickadees especially liked the box of cracked nuts which we tacked just outside the window. Another station was a pasteboard-lined box set in a cedar tree. The floor of this was covered with ground alfalfa, and various kinds of food were placed inside. The Cardinal was the first bird to visit this station. The Starlings found our food supply very promptly, and have since been gorging themselves daily, driving away our native birds. The rowdy crowd of foreigners we very much dislike, but they appear regularly and devour the meal not intended for them at all. Nor are they polite about it. Uninvited they come and make themselves at home, all the while chattering away in their foreign tongue.—MRS. MARTIN A. JOHNSON, Union, Iowa.

A Summer Bird Trip in the West.—During the first part of July, 1941, six members of the Cedar Rapids Bird Club, Dr. and Mrs. P. P. Laude of Iowa City, Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Steffen, Miss Esther Copp, and I visited the Lower Souris National Wildlife Refuge near Towner, North Dakota. This Refuge consists of over 58,000 acres and has been made possible mainly by the construction of several dams in the Mouse River which makes a loop of 360 miles in North Dakota. It has its source and mouth in Canada where it is called the Souris River.

We found this to be an ideal nesting site for hundreds of ducks and other water birds. Our favorite duck observation was that of the Ruddies, the mother ducks leading their young, single file, into the marsh grasses for safety. Other water bird observations included Mallard and Pintail Ducks, (both adult and young), Blue-winged and Green-winged Teals, American Coot, Western, Holboell's, Eared, Horned and Pied-billed Grebes, Franklin's Gull, Black and Common Terns, Marbled Godwit, Western Willet, Wilson's Phalarope, Virginia Rail, and Long-billed and Short-billed Marsh Wrens. C. J. Henry, Refuge Manager, took us on a 100-mile trip over this area. We added Clay-colored, Nelson's and Baird's Sparrows, Chestnut-collared Longspur, Sprague's Pipit, Prairie Chicken, Brewer's Blackbird, Lark Bunting, and Swainson's and Duck Hawks to our list.

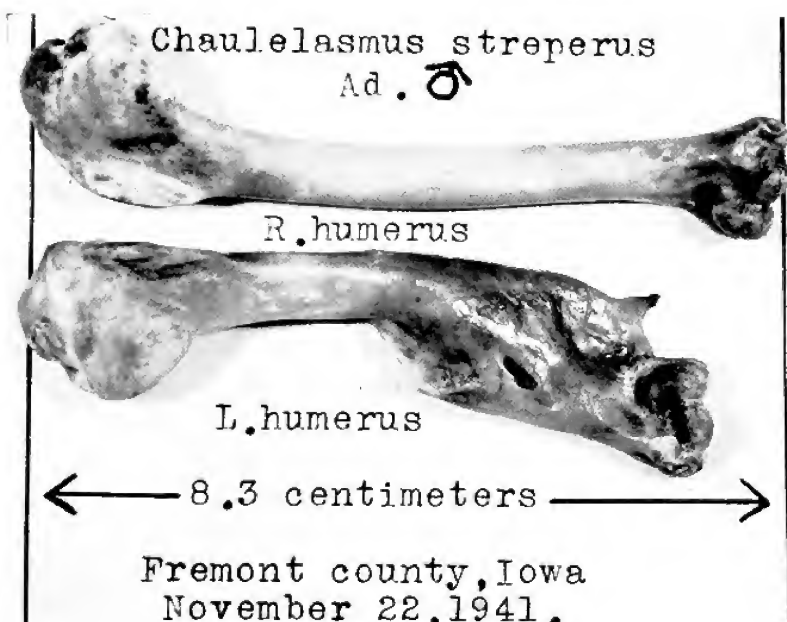
Continuing west, we stopped at the Lake Bowdoin Migratory Wildlife Refuge near Malta, Montana. We were taken by boat, by Mr. Hazeltine, Refuge Manager, to an island that supports the largest nesting colony of White Pelicans in the United States. Also nesting here in large numbers were California and Ring-billed Gulls, Double-crested Cormorants, Great Blue Herons, Common Tern, and in smaller numbers, the Avocet. Their nests were placed close together and the young birds appeared to be in all stages of development. Judging by the large numbers of unhatched eggs lying about and the dead birds, the mortality rate was high. Both refuges are havens for bird photographers.

In Glacier National Park and other parts of Montana we observed the Lazuli Bunting, Blue Grouse, Audubon's Warbler, Lewis's Woodpecker, White-winged Crossbill, Pink-sided Junco, Bullock's Oriole; in Mt. Ranier National Park, the Alaska Hermit Thrush, Hepburn's Rosy Finch, House Finch, Black-headed Junco, Shufeldt's Junco, Slate-colored Fox Sparrow, and Mountain Chickadee.

Our last strictly ornithological stop was at Yellowstone National Park, where we were fortunate enough to see an adult pair and four cygnet Trumpeter Swans, concluding one of the most satisfactory bird trips we had ever taken.—LILLIAN SERBOUSEK, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Birds at Amana.—On April 24, 1941, a Turkey Vulture flew quite low across the highway in front of the car and then wheeled high to soar above Amana woods. For several weeks in April and May, 1941, White Pelicans fed at Amana Lake. The number varied from 1 to 35 at a time. On May 3, 1941, 1 Yellow-headed Blackbird nested there, and on May 6, 3 Western Willets, 2 American Egrets, 1 Snow and 4 Blue Geese, and 2 Wood Ducks fed there. Wood Ducks were still there in August. Others observed 2 Long-billed Dowitchers and 1 Stilt Sandpiper.—C. ESTHER COPP, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Recovery of Gadwall from Fractured Left Humerus.—It is the opinion of many sportsmen and others that the irrevocable destiny of a crippled game bird is death. Hunters have used this argument to justify the killing of cripples after legal hunting hours. They have also used it to justify killing cripples in restricted territory, and killing birds in excess of the legal limit as well as those protected because of sex or species. This attitude is not substantiated by fact. A large percentage



of these birds are able to recover and carry on a normal life. Some are caught by mink, fox or other animals, thus providing food for valuable furbearers and relieving the pressure from the carnivora on normal, healthy birds, so that in any event the cripple is not a total loss.

On November 22, 1941, while hunting on Forney's Lake in Fremont County, Iowa, I shot two ducks from a small flock as they came on in full flight. On eating the birds I discovered that one had recovered from a wing injury that must have incapacitated it for some time. The bird was an adult male Gadwall (*Chaulelasmus streperus*). The left humerus had been broken in such a way as to force the distal end below and along the proximal portion for 3.3 centimeters, leaving the left humerus 9.64 percent shorter than the right. The built-in tissue that fuses the parts is firm and of nearly the same texture as the original bone. The bird was fat and healthy and its flight was in no way inferior to that of its companions.

That birds are capable of and commonly do recover from such injuries is covered by the studies of Otto W. Tiemeier.* In connection with these studies Mr. Tiemeier examined the skeletons of 6,212 specimens from the University of Kansas Museum of Birds and Mammals and found that 4.50 percent, or one in every 23 birds, had recovered from some bone injury. Many of these were fractures of the three main wing-bones, humerus, radius and ulna. Mr. Tiemeier says that Roggemann, in experimenting with domestic pigeons whose wings had been broken in the laboratory, found that they attempted to use their wings after a period of a week and were capable of ordinary flight after three weeks.

Nature has endowed our wild birds and animals with remarkable recuperative powers.—BRUCE F. STILES, Council Bluffs, Iowa.

*Tiemeier, Otto W.

1941. Repaired Bone Injuries in Birds. Auk, 58 (3): 350-359.

Bird Records near Wheatland.—A Florida Gallinule died a few minutes after being picked up in a potato patch in Wheatland, Iowa, on May 18, 1941. There was no visible evidence of injury. After looking in vain all spring and summer for King Rails, we finally saw 2 on August 26, 1941, in the Yankee Run. One of them took a bath in about 4 inches of running water within 50 feet of the bridge on which we were standing and over which cars were constantly passing. On August 15, 1939, at 5:30 a. m., we counted 90 American Egrets on a small pond and in oak trees bordering it north of Wheatland, and we saw an occasional bird late in 1940, but during the summer of 1941 we did not see one egret in that area. A flock of 20 Red-winged Blackbirds, a Great Blue Heron, and a Belted Kingfisher were still along the Wapsie on November 29, 1941.—C. ESTHER COPP, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Meadowlarks in January.—On New Year's eve snow began to fall and all day January 1, 1942, a blizzard was in progress—snow before a high wind. It was reported as the heaviest fall of snow in a 24-hour period that this section had received in a half century. Deep snow lay everywhere and there were high, hard-packed drifts. Temperature dropped rapidly, and for ten days a sub-zero wave prevailed. Three Meadowlarks stayed at my cattle feeding-lot from January 5 to 10. They evidently were able to find enough waste grain and seeds to sustain them, but the bitter cold must have caused them much discomfort, especially at night. On the morning of the 5th, when they first appeared, it was 20 below zero; at noon it was 8 below, and at 6 p. m. it was 15 below. On the morning of the 7th it was 20 below zero, on the 8th it was 18 below, but on the 9th it was zero. In the late afternoon of January 10, I saw the three Meadowlarks fly up from the lot, but one did not fly as far away as the other two and appeared to be weaker. The next day only two larks were seen, which suggested that perhaps one had succumbed. Warm weather was then on the way, and they were not seen after January 11.—FRED J. PIERCE, Winthrop, Iowa.

Specimens of Greater Scaup and Old Squaw Taken in Iowa.—On October 19, 1941, on Marble Lake, Dickinson County, Iowa, a single Greater Scaup (*Nyroca marila*) female was taken by Maynard F. Reese, Museum Assistant, State Dept. of History and Archives, Des Moines. Another specimen, a young male, was taken on Marble Lake on November 1, 1941, from a flock of several hundred Lesser Scaups (*Nyroca affinis*). Both specimens are typical of the species of Greater Scaup, and are easily identified by their large size, larger measurements of the bill, and nail on the bill, and by the amount of white on the wings. Among the many ducks in that locality from October 15 to December 1, there were probably many Greater Scaups, but only a small number of the birds were in any place where they could be seen or obtained. The second bird taken could be told from the rest of the flock by its large size. The contents of the stomach of this bird consisted wholly of snails. The stomach of the first specimen was entirely empty except for many grains of fine sand.

On November 29, 1941, while working in Louisa County, a rural mail carrier brought to me a specimen for identification. It proved to be a female Old Squaw (*Clangula hyemalis*). It was shot in Muscatine County, Iowa, on the Cedar River, and was so badly damaged that it was not preserved as a specimen. However, the identification was positive, as it was examined by W. C. Thietje of the State University of Iowa Museum and myself, both being familiar with the male and female of the Old Squaw.—JACK W. MUSGROVE, Iowa State Dept. of History and Archives, Des Moines, Iowa.

One of the leading articles in the February issue of 'Nature Magazine' was written by Dr. F. L. R. Roberts, of Spirit Lake, Iowa. Entitled 'Color Counts', it discusses protective coloration in the nature world, and is illustrated by the author's excellent photographs.

Our list of Members of the American Ornithologists' Union given in the last issue of 'Iowa Bird Life' (p. 76) did not include enough names, and our attention has been called to the unintentional omissions. The following Iowans should have also been listed. Alfred M. Bailey, now Director of the Colorado Museum of Natural History at Denver, was a Member of the A. O. U. for several years prior to his election as "Fellow" in 1941. Other "Members" are W. J. Breckenridge, of the Museum of Natural History, University of Minnesota; Wesley F. Kubichek, U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service; Lester L. Snyder, Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto; Dr. Dayton Stoner, State Zoologist of New York. Dr. Stoner was associated with the Zoology staff at the University of Iowa, Iowa City, for 20 years. For the latter half of that period he conducted classes in ornithology, and the four men mentioned were all students of Dr. Stoner in that science.

New Secretary-Treasurer. Miss Lillian Serbousek, 1226 Second St. S. W., Cedar Rapids, has been appointed to serve the remainder of the year's term of the late Walter Rosene. Miss Serbousek is a teacher in Roosevelt High School at Cedar Rapids, is an active and enthusiastic bird student, and is a young lady who is well known to most of us. She is ready to receive members' dues and to take care of all other business handled by the Secretary-Treasurer.

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